

Critical Mass Austin #21 - 3/31/23 Attendee Testimonials

The following 22 testimonials were obtained through direct messages, public social media posts, email, and through text messages. Original and redacted documentation is available as needed.

Experience of Critical Mass Austin Attendees

"What made me feel uncomfortable and unsafe was that the other cycling group was super loud, all over the place and rode right into traffic not caring about their surroundings. One rider also almost crashed into me during the ride." (Female 01 Ride Bikes Austin Ride Leader/8-Month Member, Critical Mass Austin/7-Month Member)

"I could tell things were off right after rollout because of the constant whistling. But we didn't have any bad interactions. We stayed pretty far back in the procession." (Male 01 Ride Bikes Austin Leader/12-Month Member, Critical Mass Austin/14-Month Member)

"The main incident I remember was as we were passing 35 someone from the other group got in front of a car and was hitting it/yelling at the driver." (Female 02 Ride Bikes Austin Ride Leader/10-Month Member, Critical Mass Austin/7-Month Member)

"I was uncomfortable, mostly I just heard a couple of guys keep yelling how much they hated Rba." (Female 03 Ride Bikes Austin Ride Leader/11-Month Member, Critical Mass Austin/8-Month Member)

"I'm not feeling safe and that's how I'm feeling right now. I'm not feeling very safe like all of this really triggered shit in me. Sorry to say that but it's true I mean I know I got trauma crap going on, but you know it's like that night with them being like they were, I was just like really. I feel like I'm being like really bombarded on social media with them... "(Female 08 Ride Bikes Austin/7-Month Member, Critical Mass Austin/7-Month Member)

"When we went on the critical mass ride, there were riders who were going against the group which made it difficult to ride safely. I notice when we got to the feeder road they began to go into all 4 lanes instead of staying close to the group which affected the safety of the other riders. My friend was also on skates and the outside group almost ran into her and other riders several times. Critical mass rides are usually a place of community but the other riders made it feel unsafe for the group as they kept weaving in an out of people and going in the opposite direction through the crowd which led to unnecessary confusion." (Female 09 Ride Bikes Austin/6-Month Member, Critical Mass Austin/6-Month Member)

"I felt uncomfortable, because some SCA riders rode unpredictably, I heard Corina [Oliva-Hansen, FB: Zwinky Bell, Female 1 Social Cycling Austin Ride Leader/9-Year Member, 5:30 CMATx Organizer-Ride Leader/9-Year Member] shouting "Go Ride Bikes Austin", as though to antagonize us. Blake [Lampasas, Male 03 Social Cycling Austin Rider Leader/10-Year Member, 5:30 CMATx Rider/10-Year Member], never once apologizing for laughing at RBA pics I'm tagged in on fb, held his arms in an open hug

gesture to me. I was standing far away and didn't reciprocate. I was worried about how they would treat you and [Name Removed]." (Female 10 Ride Bikes Austin Ride Leader-Volunteer/21-Month Member, Critical Mass Austin Ride Leader/21-Month Member)

"The harassment was uncalled for! The members from the other group were swerving all around. The worst part is when they would call "rolling" when our ride leader would call "stopping" or when they would call the opposite turn of what she said. One time, I thought she said straight but apparently it was a turn and I almost got in her way. I would have felt awful if I was the reason she crashed! Also, the other bikers would get really close to incoming traffic. I don't need to see anyone die!" (Male 02 Ride Bikes Austin Ride Leader/8-Month Member, Critical Mass Austin/7-Month Member)

"I overheard some guy on a bmx bike talking sh*t to another rider about RBA. Don't remember the face or [exact] content but it was pretty trashy. Whoever he was whining to didn't seem very interested in hearing it!" (Male 03 Ride Bikes Austin/21-Month Member, Critical Mass Austin/18-Month Member)

"On Friday night at the critical mass I felt unsafe for myself and other members of the group, the other party that joined us did not respect the leader's instructions and they were too close to other riders and almost clipped some of them. There was about 4-6 people at the front of the ride continuously trying to block the leader, yelling "Rolling" as we were coming to a stop to let traffic by, and one of them almost got hit by a car, that puts other members of the group in danger. You had those same people trying to do wheelies while in the middle of the crowd and came way too close to causing an accident, again its unsafe." (Male 04 Ride Bikes Austin Ride Leader/12-Month Member, Critical Mass Austin/3-Month Member)

"I felt incredibly uncomfortable having riders from the other Critical Mass Ride attend our ride due to their reckless behavior. Several were performing wheelies, swerving into oncoming traffic, and disrespecting the ride leader." (Male 05 Ride Bikes Austin Organizer-Ride Leader/22-Month Member, Critical Mass Austin Organizer-Ride Leader/24-Month Member)

"I know people got mad and left because we were just going in circles and there might've been some people a little over intoxicated which is never good for the overall safety of everyone. I didn't notice the drunk people till we stopped and I think most of them might've been from out of town. I didn't recognize any of them." (Male 06 Ride Bikes Austin Volunteer/7-Month Member, Critical Mass Austin Volunteer/24-Month Member)

"I felt they came off as really aggressive for no reason, everything felt tense initially and then some of them was riding really recklessly." (Male 07 Ride Bikes Austin Ride Leader-Volunteer/23-Month Member, Critical Mass Austin/24-Month Member)

"Blake [Lampasas, Male 03 Social Cycling Austin Rider Leader/10-Year Member, 5:30 CMATx Rider/10-Year Member] makes me feel unsafe because his behavior is erratic and I've heard him in the past talk about how he carries a gun and I've heard him threaten people with it at Social Cycling Austin rides so seeing him makes me feel unsafe. Part of the reason I quit going to SCA was hearing him threaten a car driver with a gun.

The guy [Oscar Adan, FB: AQ Lte, Male 02 Social Cycling Austin/3-Year Member, 5:30 CMATx Rider/1-Year Member] who was dancing and talking to himself at the dj booth came up and got right under my leg while I wasn't looking, and it really creeped me out. Other than that, I just felt generally unsafe because of everything I heard about how they tried to take over our ride." (Female 04 Ride Bikes Austin/4-Month Member, Critical Mass Austin/3-Month Member)

"We left. Yeah, I just couldn't keep doing circles like that and the rest of the route on skates. I get we had to do that because it was too dangerous to ride through downtown with those other people acting like that and I explained it to [Name Removed: Male] and [Name Removed: Female]. Also, me and [Name Removed: Male] were ready to fight people so probably not a good idea for us to stay." (Female 05 Ride Bikes Austin Ride Leader-Volunteer/16-Month Member, Critical Mass Austin Ride Leader/12-Month Member)

"I did not enjoy the night overall because I did not feel safe, listened to, or respected. When [CMATx] riders rode in front of the leader, I asked them to please stay behind her, and was ignored. I felt [CMATx] people getting too close to me when we were riding, and several times almost hitting me.

At a 4-way intersection before the store stop, the leader called for us to stop. Immediately after, a man said "don't stop!" And darted out into traffic. This was scary and when I looked to the left, I saw people laughing.

Then another man [Oscar Adan, FB: AQ Lte: Male 02 Social Cycling Austin/3-Year Member, 5:30 CMATx Rider/1-Year Member] rolled in front of the leader, blocking her way, and I told him to please move. He looked at me and said "you're not my f*cking mom."

It made me really angry and stressed to be in that environment, so much so that if they were there again acting that way, I'd choose not to attend. People being unsafe and stupid alone is fine, I guess, but when you act that way with a lot of people and cars are involved it is unsafe. Even if you put your life in danger only, you are forcing us to watch and feel anxiety and fear and it was extremely upsetting for me personally." (Female 06 Ride Bikes Austin Ride Leader-Volunteer/6-Month Member, Critical Mass Austin/3-Month Member)

"The behaviors I saw that made me uncomfortable. [CMATx] People were yelling aggressively at cars. In the convenience store parking lot people were yelling and acting out in a way that would have made it understandable for someone to call the cops on us. People weaving through the bike group in a reckless and aggressive way.

[CMATx] people [were] not being polite and respectful of those around them. Disrespecting the group as a whole and disrespecting the community and spaces we were taking up.

Mostly my issue was people making the group feel unfriendly. I love RBA because from the beginning I have been welcomed and included. RBA travels the roads in a safe way that makes me feel safe being a

part of the group. It sucked to feel like people where f*cking with that." (Female 07 Ride Bikes Austin/6-Month Member, Critical Mass Austin/5-Month Member)

"I believed it to be a bit excessive that SCA came up behind us, then started aggressively weaving in and out of RBA members. Some SCA members started doing bike tricks in the middle of the group, and unfortunately one person did fall over. This could have caused more crashes but luckily everyone around was being observant.

I take the sweep position seriously, and when these large groups come together no one is really taking into account that someone is trying to look out for everyone who joins. It would be nice that when other groups join, they take a moment to recognize the group they're joining and ask relevant safety questions for the well-being of all involved in the rides.

[Name Removed: Female] told me, but I didn't immediately notice was Blake [Lampasas:, Male 03 Social Cycling Austin Rider Leader/10-Year Member, 5:30 CMATx Rider/10-Year Member] from SCA was walking around and pointing out bikes, to other [CMATx] ride members and it made [Name Removed: Female] feel very uncomfortable as if it was done with nefarious purposes in mind. And no point in time should we as a community after fear for our bikes or bike accessories surrounded by other community members." (Male 08 Ride Bikes Austin Ride Volunteer/10-Month Member, Critical Mass Austin/11-Month Member; 7-year old child present on ride)

"I definitely felt uncomfortable, unsafe, and disappointed. There was a different energy about the critical mass ride from ones that I had previously attended. During the ride I overheard [CMATx] individuals say "I'm going to keep f*cking with them." It seemed to be an [CMATx] outside group apart from critical mass and it felt like harassment.

Those people and others [from CMATx] really killed the fun and community of the ride. At another point during the ride, I got in between one of our riders and the [CMATx] group to try and help diffuse a situation. The [CMATx] rider immediately got aggressive and pointed me out to another in his [CMATx] group. After that I felt like a target and put more attention on my surroundings instead of trying to enjoy the critical mass ride. I was disappointed that other "adults" would make it a point to harass a community event just for their own fun. I know this is not how all Mass rides go, but it'd definitely be unfortunate if this was someone's first time attending and their experience." (Male 09 Ride Bikes Austin Ride Volunteer/6-Month Member, Critical Mass Austin/8-Month Member)

"The first group ride [Name Removed: Male], [Name Removed: Male] and I went on was with SCA before the ride started we were all hanging out getting to know everyone joking about if we were ever going to start riding when this dude walks up to us and my friend [Name Removed: Male] tries to shake his hand and he [Blake Lampasas: Male 03 Social Cycling Austin Rider Leader/10-Year Member, 5:30 CMATx Rider/10-Year Member] says f*ck you and my friend [Name Removed: Male] replied with the same thing and he laughed and tried to play it off and introduced himself as the ride leader.

We all looked at each other and immediately recognized that this guy is super drunk and seems threatening so we distance ourselves when the ride is getting ready to take off. He's so drunk he can't

find his bike so we point it out to him and he says 'I wish somebody would try to steal my bike so I could shoot 'em.'

Later during the ride were at the back and he [Blake Lampasas: Male 03 Social Cycling Austin Rider Leader/10-Year Member, 5:30 CMATx Rider/10-Year Member] rolls up and says I wish I could slap some punks for riding e-bikes tonight and I told him he should slap himself because he's the only punk and we rode off laughing. That was the first and only time we rode with them [Social Cycling Austin]. When we started at critical mass there was a smaller group some familiar faces and some new people but once we started riding we got a few blocks in and a group [CMATx] of obviously unfriendly people came doing wheelies speeding through the group and getting extremely close to other riders.

When we came to the stop sign, the road was blocked off by some of their riders and it immediately felt hostile and I see RBA as my family and anyone that rides with us are friends but that was not the case that night. Our ride leader was on her tall bike and Blake [Lampasas, Male 03 Social Cycling Austin Rider Leader/10-Year Member, 5:30 CMATx Rider/10-Year Member] came speeding by me extremely close and then he got in front of Raquel and stopped almost making her fall.

I felt myself get extremely defensive and like if I saw somebody do something to my friends that it would put me in a dangerous position. I would have to defend them and myself against a large group of unfriendly [CMATx] people, one of which I already know has mentioned he carries a firearm and wants to use it against somebody.

The vibe immediately shifted when the [CMATx] group showed up, so I chose to leave that night because I felt we were in danger and I didn't want to watch something happen and be in that position." (Male 10 Ride Bikes Austin Ride Volunteer/4-Month Member, Critical Mass Austin/4-Month Member)

"I am a member of RBA and I attended the Critical Mass ride on 3/31/23. I am reaching out to express my disappointment and concern for my safety during this ride caused by non-RBA [CMATx] members. These very disruptive [CMATx] people made the experience unsafe for all riders by performing dangerous and illegal moving violations, yelling and screaming profanities randomly and frightening our members attempting to enjoy themselves peacefully.

The ride started with these [CMATx] disruptive persons riding around and loudly and rudely screaming at other members in the [CMATx] group expressing their excitement to "f*ck shit up for RBA." This made me and several RBA members uncomfortable because we do not behave in this way when we ride together. We are a peaceful social bike group that rides our bikes, enjoying this magnificent city. The disruptive riders' behavior clearly did not reflect our values.

They continued to yell out profanities throughout the ride. They bragged about why they were present, stating that they dislike RBA and continuously yelled "F*ck RBA!" They performed dangerous tricks on their bikes nearly missing participants, creating an unsafe environment for peaceful riders. Additionally, they rode against traffic several times! This caused cars to stop, move to the side and created dangerous conditions for automobiles and bike riders, alike.

One of the [CMATx] disruptive riders performed an unsafe wheelie, bumped an RBA member and actually caused the RBA member to fall off his bike and injure himself. This was the last straw for me. Several members left the ride early fearful for their safety and I too stopped riding as it became too dangerous to ride near this other group of [CMATx] men.

This was not the first time that we have experienced harassment and threats to public safety like this with this [CMATx] group of dangerous riders. I moved to this city to engage in a more peaceful, safe and unique way of life that aligns with my lifestyle. This group of [CMATx] men challenge my right to pursue a safe environment in the city of Austin. RBA has always supported a safe space where all peaceful riders can come together and enjoy each other's company. These [CMATx] outliers are not a part of RBA and are plaguing this city with their ridiculous and obscene behaviors. They have made a practice of harassing peaceful, law-abiding local riders and have publicly demonstrated their angst by breaking traffic laws and creating unsafe conditions for cyclists and other road users in Austin.

I am writing this statement in hopes that the City of Austin takes notice of this and engages in practices that will stop this type of harassment and unsafe road conditions for its citizens." (Male 11 Ride Bikes Austin Ride Volunteer/9-Month Member, Critical Mass Austin/5-Month Member)



Critical Mass Austin #21 - 3/31/23 Organizers/Ride Leader Experiences

Experience of Critical Mass Austin Organizers

"As we departed from the start of the ride, I was startled by Jose [FB: Beer Chugging Jose, Male 08 Social Cycling Austin/4-Year Member, 5:30 CMATx/2-Year Member], when he rode up next to me on my left side and made a sudden loud whooping/yelling sound, while looking directly into my face. He continued riding erratically enough for me to feel agitated by his repeated loud whooping and hollering. This unsettling and annoying behavior has been repeated on other rides. He started this annoying behavior after I requested that he not ride into oncoming traffic during our 4/29/22 Critical Mass ride. In response, he became irate because he did not like being addressed by ME and he yelled "nigga" in my face over ten times in retaliation. This prompted several riders to intervene to try to help calm him down. (witnessed)

I witnessed Oscar Adan [FB: AQ Lte, Male 02 Social Cycling Austin/3-Year Member, 5:30 CMATx Rider/1-Year Member] stop our ride leader at an intersection, by placing himself directly in front of her. I also witnessed CMATx members block all lanes of traffic including the middle of the intersection twice. They would not allow motorists, our ride leader, or any of us to pass until they decided to clear the intersection.

I witnessed CMATx members riding alarmingly too close to our ride leader twice, which caused our members (men and women) to come up front to create a safe barrier of protection between her and the aggressive CMATx members. I witnessed a CMATx member pop a wheelie behind my friend and then spin out of control. His front wheel missed her spine by less than ½ inch. Sadly, this guy simply sped away laughing, not even acknowledging the full situation and possible consequences of his reckless actions.

I noticed about half of the riders left by the middle of the ride, due to the presence of this aggressive group. I witnessed riders from the other group riding into on-coming traffic and playing chicken with on-coming traffic.

I witnessed the negative impact on the vibe at the Critical Mass after-party. Several of our regular riders that arrived late quickly noticed that the vibe was "on edge" and not normal. Our late arriving riders wanted to know "who are those people" Our after-party is always a joyous and vibrant community celebration. I received a complaint from a female rider regarding being placed in an uncomfortable position, by a CMATx male member. RBA organizers made sure she made it safely into her vehicle. The DJ was concerned about his equipment, due to erratic and uncontrolled body movements of Oscar Adan [FB: AQ Lte, Male 02 Social Cycling Austin/3-Year Member, 5:30 CMATx Rider/1-Year Member]. I had to create a barrier between him and the DJ table to prevent any damage to the equipment. I had to constantly replace the barrier, due to Oscar Adan [FB: AQ Lte, Male 02 Social Cycling Austin/3-Year Member, 5:30 CMATx Rider/1-Year Member] removing it and repeatedly getting too close to the DJ table. He ignored all requests to stay behind the barrier. I didn't appreciate the extra discarded trash left at the after-party. RBA Organizers normally collect less than half a bag of trash. But, we actually had to collect four bags of trash by the end of the night..not cool!!!

Oscar Adan [FB: AQ LTE, Male 02 Social Cycling Austin/3-Year Member, 5:30 CMATx Rider/1-Year Member] forced unwanted bear hugs on me that took a little effort to escape from. I had to tell him several times to stop grabbing my arm when I was replacing the barrier for the DJ table. He ignored all my requests for him to stop touching. This same individual is currently featured in a video on the CMATx Facebook page tearing up an RBA sticker and saying "Fuck RBA". " (Nona Allen, Female 11 Ride Bikes Austin Founder-Organizer-Ride Leader-Volunteer/24-Month Member, Critical Mass Austin Organizer-Ride Leader/24-Month Member)

"I was the designated ride leader at Critical Mass Austin #22 - 4/28/23.

I didn't know something was wrong until we exited the trail near Robert Martinez Jr. and felt a gush of wind when Blake Lampasas [Male 03 Social Cycling Austin Rider Leader/10-Year Member, 5:30 CMATx Rider/10-Year Member] rode by close enough that I could have been knocked off my tall bike if he'd been a few inches closer. I endured similar experiences by him and another person that arrived with CMATx two more times before the ride was over. My heart rate and adrenaline shot up, but I didn't have much bandwidth to get scared about being crashed into because I was more concerned about the safety of everyone that I was leading.

I was grateful when some of our regular riders later formed a buffer around me.

I was faced with hostility and disrespect from the CMATx riders. I did not have time to feel fearful, because I had to be strategic and make timely decisions to help reduce the increased threat to the safety of our riders, motorists, and pedestrians. I realized that it was unsafe to lead our group along our predetermined route through downtown and south of the river because it was apparent that CMATx riders were intent on playing chicken with on-coming traffic. I basically put the training wheels back on for the entire group by not crossing through intersections with traffic lights, avoiding 2-lane roads with a stripe down the middle, and interjecting multiple subsequent turns so that we remained within a 2-mile radius. Keeping the ride with-in a 2-mile radius helped prevent any attempts to split our riders up, while empowering anyone wanting to get back to the starting location early to do so easily.

I was blocked from proceeding at two intersections. The first was at Haskell and Chicon and the second was at Holly and Waller. The blockade at Haskell was disconcerting because Blake Lampasas [Male 03 Social Cycling Austin Rider Leader/10-Year Member, 5:30 CMATx Rider/10-Year Member] was posted up directly across the street glaring at me while other people I didn't recognize were standing in the middle of the intersection and at each road. It was awkward but it did give me a few minutes to come up with a plan of action to reduce the negative impact of what might turn out to be a dangerous situation.

The second time it happened was more aggressive because Oscar Adan [FB: AQ Lte, Male 02 Social Cycling Austin/3-Year Member, 5:30 CMATx Rider/1-Year Member] planted himself and his bike directly in my path at the intersection of Holly and Waller. I was trying to guide our group safely while east and westbound motorists started piling up because of some of the CMATx riders who. were blocking the full intersection. He also physically restrained me in unwanted bear hugs twice over the course of the

evening. I had to use quite a bit of force to get him off me. I felt disgusted by his embrace and annoyed with his sense of entitlement . The 2nd time he grabbed me like that I became concerned for the safety of one of our regular male riders that witnessed the incident because his aggravation was visible. I had to repeatedly request for Oscar Adan [FB: AQ Lte, Male 02 Social Cycling Austin/3-Year Member, 5:30 CMATx Rider/1-Year Member] to give me space, to give the dj equipment space, and to back off in general throughout the night.

I felt a sense of pride when I saw how our regular riders conducted themselves in the face of unwarranted aggression. They maintained their composure, refused to be drawn into acts of violence, and helped look out for one another (and for me). I saw them being assertive and confident while navigating the challenges of seeing those they care about experiencing harassment and threats to their physical safety. Some of them empathetically and responsibly left early with some of our more vulnerable attendees while others held themselves accountable for ensuring the rest of us made it back safely. Some of our regular riders stayed extra late at the end helping to ensure that our friends that brought the skates and the music were able to depart without any issues related to their equipment." (Raquel Ortega, Female 12 Ride Bikes Austin Founder-Organizer-Ride Leader-Volunteer/24-Month Member, Critical Mass Austin Organizer-Ride Leader/24-Month Member)



5:30 CMATx Riders Public Statements

Critical Mass Austin #21 - 3/31/23 CMATx Rider Public Statements

Statements obtained from public social media posts. Original and redacted documentation is available as needed. All names are removed and replaced with descriptive information.

Recap from Individuals that Arrived with Critical Mass Austin Tx (5:30 CMATx)

"I heard that #RBACMA rode with #CriticalMassAustin last Friday. It warms my heart to know that our bike community is healing." (Jason Abels, Male 01 Social Cycling Austin Admin/14-Year Member, 5:30 CMATx Organizer-Rider/14-Year Member)

"Yeah the way it was explained to me was SCA "chased RBA in circles so they couldn't get away." Doesn't sound like healing." (Angela Dion, Female 3 Social Cycling Austin/13-Year Member)

"I'll take responsibility for bringing the rides together. It was bound to happen at some time. It's a question that gets repeated each month...I feel I gave the people what they wanted. Most of the rules were followed and most of us partied, danced, and skated at the end. Some smiles were genuine, some were fake, and some smiles were upside down." (Corina Oliva-Hansen, FB: Zwinky Bell, Female 1 Social Cycling Austin Ride Leader/9-Year Member, 5:30 CMATx Organizer-Ride Leader/9-Year Member)

"Can't say I didn't encourage this." (Ricardo El Rey Trevino, Male 05 Social Cycling Austin Admin-Ride Leader/14-Year Member, 5:30 CMATx Rider/10-Year Member)

"That sh*t felt about as foreign as coding to an illiterate... not much rba could do, we just rolled up on em and started riding with." (Alexandro J Aguilar, Male 04 Social Cycling Austin/6-Year Member, 5:30 CMATx Rider/3-Year Member)

"Well, if only two out of two hundred are having a bad time, and that bad time is one of their own making, then maybe that's as good as it's gonna get for a while. I can live with that." (Jason Abels, Male 01 Social Cycling Austin Admin/14-Year Member, 5:30 CMATx Organizer-Rider/14-Year Member)

"...I expect the handful of people who had a bad time on the ride probably heavily overlap with the same small handful people who've been trying to exclude our friends and I from the local cycling community over the past few years, so I'm not surprised if I didn't hear any negative reviews of the various groups merging to ride as one. Which, honestly is fine by me. If everybody but the party poopers are having a grand time riding together, it seems like that's not a problem for everybody, it's a problem for the party poopers. Get ya minds right and ride as one, friends!" (Jason Abels, Male 01 Social Cycling Austin Admin/14-Year Member, 5:30 CMATx Organizer-Rider/14-Year Member)

"Now I'm curious, was this the ride turning back on itself? I know the RBA-owned ride pre-plans their routes. What an interesting choice of roads to take." (Jason Abels, Male 01 Social Cycling Austin Admin/14-Year Member, 5:30 CMATx Organizer-Rider/14-Year Member)

"Seems to be anger. Those were not happy faces on the not-so-dynamic-duo." (Ricardo El Rey Trevino, Male 05 Social Cycling Austin Admin-Ride Leader/14-Year Member, 5:30 CMATx Rider/10-Year Member)

"Nah they decided to do circles and circles which made some of there own riders mad but whatever." (Blake Lampasas, Male 03 Social Cycling Austin Rider Leader/10-Year Member, 5:30 CMATx Rider/10-Year Member)

"Honestly, it was a little strange to me that they were trying to lose us in the first place...we probably at least doubled the size of their ride." (Kimberly Jarboe, Female 4 Social Cycling Austin Admin-Rider Leader/13-Year Member)

"it had their 5 skaters disappointed and a few of them left the ride. Their loss." (Corina Oliva-Hansen, FB: Zwinky Bell, Female 1 Social Cycling Austin Ride Leader/9-Year Member, 5:30 CMATx Organizer-Ride Leader/9-Year Member)

"The rba sweep/flag person did not know what was going on. He pulled over to get to the back and looked puzzled." (Ricardo El Rey Trevino, Male 05 Social Cycling Austin Admin-Ride Leader/14-Year Member, 5:30 CMATx Rider/10-Year Member)

"I think it worked out fine. 75% of the people did not know what the heck was going on...I say we try to do it every once in a while because we still need to try to hit up campus a few more times." (Corina Oliva-Hansen, FB: Zwinky Bell, Female 1 Social Cycling Austin Ride Leader/9-Year Member, 5:30 CMATx Organizer-Ride Leader/9-Year Member)

"Dibs as leader of the newly founded #criticalrbacma." (Alaine Gonz, Female 2 Social Cycling Austin/4-Year Member, 5:30 CMATx 1-Year Member)

"Hell yeah! Take it back to its roots and bomb campus! Midpoint on the West Mall" (Jason Abels, Male 01 Social Cycling Austin Admin/14-Year Member, 5:30 CMATx Organizer-Rider/14-Year Member)

"Jason Abels [Male 01 Social Cycling Austin Admin/14-Year Member, 5:30 CMATx Organizer-Rider/14-Year Member] sure! You be in the front Sir Abels." (Corina Oliva-Hansen, FB: Zwinky Bell, Female 1 Social Cycling Austin Ride Leader/9-Year Member, 5:30 CMATx Organizer-Ride Leader/9-Year Member)

"Also. Did anyone get a certified letter yet. I haven't yet. But kind of expecting it." (Ricardo El Rey Trevino, Male 05 Social Cycling Austin Admin-Ride Leader/14-Year Member, 5:30 CMATx Rider/10-Year Member)

"ROFL!!! After the first round was officially sent, received, and got promptly laughed at (and rightly ridiculed) by everyone who came across them, I expect they realized the inefficacy of their weird, spuriously quasi-legalese threats. If the legal masterminds in the overly-litigious employ of [Name Removed] couldn't shift us with their ACTUAL legal threats, what chance do these two stand with fake

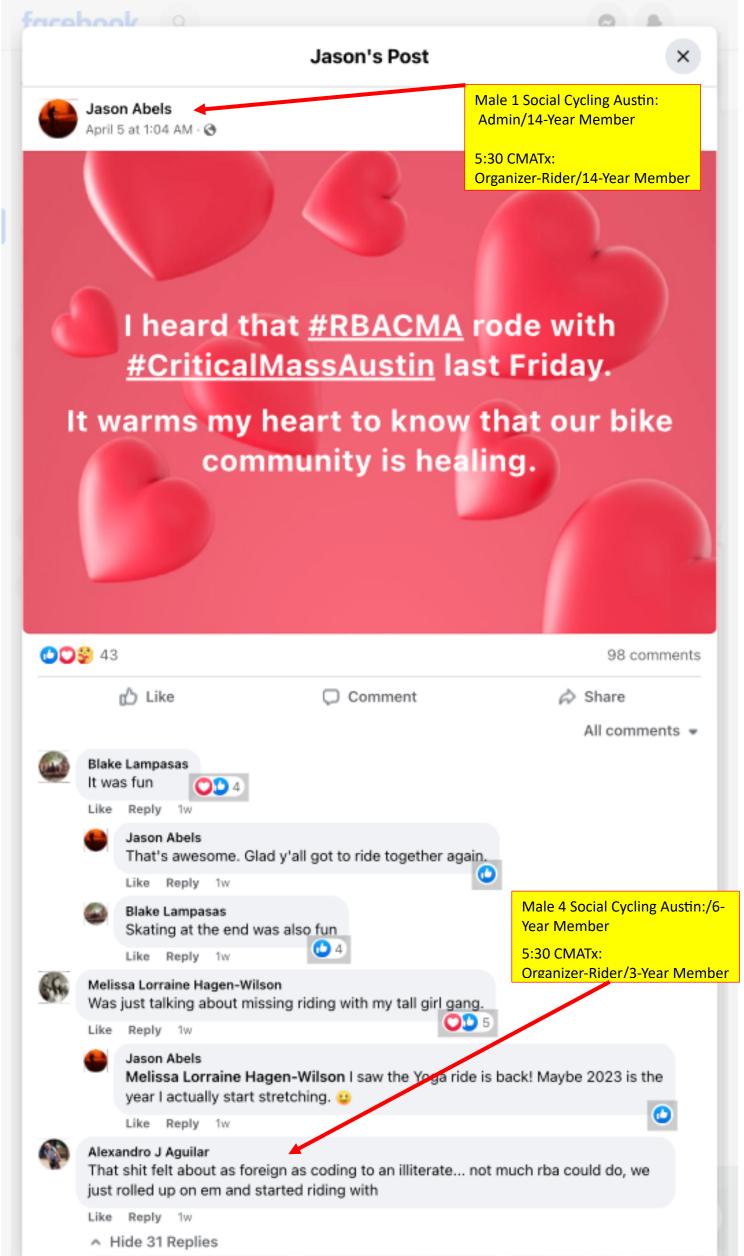
ones." (Jason Abels, Male 01 Social Cycling Austin Admin/14-Year Member, 5:30 CMATx Organizer-Rider/14-Year Member)

"I figure if we can all ride as one a few more times, maybe whatever issues these folks are beefing over (I still haven't been told by anyone what their problem with austin cyclists is) can fade away as we all keep riding together.

To that end, if anyone is still in contact with [Name Removed: RBA Organizer]/hasn't been ostracised, please pass along word that I'd love to speak with them and understand why they seem so intent on sabotaging their own rides like this. Seems rather counterproductive, but maybe they have a good (thought still uncommunicated) reason for doing so." (Jason Abels, Male 01 Social Cycling Austin Admin/14-Year Member, 5:30 CMATx Organizer-Rider/14-Year Member)

"Yeah, I expect about the same to come of this request as the last several I've made (aka. absolutely nothing), but I want to make sure everyone knows that the bridge is still open, at least on this side." (Jason Abels, Male 01 Social Cycling Austin Admin/14-Year Member, 5:30 CMATx Organizer-Rider/14-Year Member)

"It was awesome. About 200 strong. Like the old days. rba did not want us there. We were not welcome. The faces on the leaders were faces of anger and frustration. They desperately wanted to shake us. So much anger on rba's side. The stop at Sanchez was hilarious. Waving hands to allow us to roll by. Good times." (Ricardo El Rey Trevino, Male 05 Social Cycling Austin Admin-Ride Leader/14-Year Member, 5:30 CMATx Rider/10-Year Member)





Yeah the way it was explained to me was SCA "chased RBA in circles so they couldn't get away." Doesn't sound like healing.

Like Reply 1w





Jason Abels

Angela Dion wild, does the end of a ride "chase" the beginning of it? Do roadies "chase" each other in a paceline? If the people up front don't want to ride in circles that's completely up to them.

Like Reply 1w





Lorenzo Figueroa

Angela Dion who is SCA in this scenario?

Like Reply 1w





Jason Abels

Lorenzo Figueroa "Anything we don't like is SCA."

Like Reply 1w





Jason Abels

The idea that anyone felt the need to "get away" from the rest of their own ride that THEY were leading (everybody was on Critical Mass, right?) is mind boggling.

Like Reply 1w





Blake Lampasas

Angela Dion what are you talking about do you even ride bikes? We're you there or are you just stirring the pot like your bf does

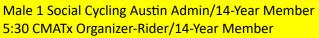
Like Reply 1



Angela Dion

I'm just relaying what I was told. I'm not sure why that's getting y'all riled up. If Raquel decided to ride harmoniously then that's exciting news.

Like Reply 1





Jason Abels

Ah, bummer. Everyone I talked to said it was a great time and everyone was friendly, but I expect the handful of people who had a bad time on the ride probably heavily overlap with the same small handful people who've been trying to exclude our friends and I from the local cycling community over the past few years, so I'm not surprised if I didn't hear any negative reviews of the various groups merging to ride as one.

Which, honestly is fine by me. If everybody but the party poopers are having a grand time riding together, it seems like that's not a problem for everybody, it's a problem for the party poopers. Get ya minds right and ride as one, friends!

Like Reply 1w





Blake Lampasas

Angela Dion nah they decided to do circles and circles which made some of there own riders mad but whatever

Like Reply 1w





Doug McLaren

I didn't even realize anything had happened until I started seeing people we didn't start with. That said, it was all smiling faces for the rest of the ride with only one notable exception.

In any event, once it started, I'm not sure how the rides were going to separate -- I mean, one ride has a set leader, and the other is lead by whomever people feel like following.

I'm not sure what the loops were about. Trying to make it boring?



Female 4 Social Cycling Austin: Admin-Ride Leader/14-Year Member

5:30 CMATx:

Organizer-Rider/10-Year Member



Kimberly Jarboe

Jason Abels Yup, everyone that I talked to on their ride was super nice. Of course, R & N don't even acknowledge my existence anymore, so I didn't have the chance to chat with them, but everyone else seemed super welcoming. We even all stayed for the party at the end at Mendez park, and a bunch of folks rented skates. I think Blake even attempted to thank them for facilitating making skate rentals available, but from the sound of it, it got a little weird, LOL.

Honestly, it was a little strange to me that they were trying to lose us in the first place... we probably at least doubled the size of their ride by joining up. Corina basically just rolled us by the park so we could take that new Holly bike trail, and serendipitously, they happened to be leaving at that very moment. We all just jumped on. It was the most perfect timing ever.

Like Reply 1w Edited



Kimberly Jarboe

Doug McLaren LOL I like that strava, it did feel like we were just doing loops and loops and loops, some seemed like more than once.

Like Reply 1w



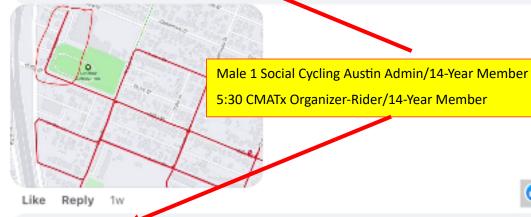
Zwinky Bell

Blake Lampasas it had their 5 skaters disappointed and a few of them left the ride. Their loss.

Lik

Jason Apels

Doug McLaren Now I'm curious, was this the ride turning back on itself? I know the RBA-owned ride pre-plans their routes. What an interesting choice of roads to take.





Jason Abels

Zwinky Bell Damn, that sucks for the skaters. For an "all are welcome" ride somebody sure does seem to want to make it difficult for people to do their ride. Maybe that's one of their unstated goals, kinda like their "identify people who've done it before we did and know the true history of the local bike culture and ostracise/exclude them" they've been doing over the past few years?

Like Reply 1w





Kimberly Jarboe

Jason Abels Yes, I do remember pulling over at one point, and then going back the way that we had come. I think perhaps they were trying to figure out the next move? It was a little weird, but whatever! And I suspect some of those thick lines were where we might have taken the exact same route more than once.

Like Reply 1w





Ricardo El Rey Treviño

Jason Abels Yes. I came up the street side and both rba leaders went right by me. A bit pissed.

Like Reply 1w





Jason Abels

Well, if only two out of two hundred are having a bad time, and that bad time is one of their own making, then maybe that's as good as it's gonna get for a while.

I can live with that.

Like Reply 1w

Male 1 Social Cycling Austin Admin/14-Year Member 5:30 CMATx Organizer-Rider/14-Year Member



Doug McLaren

Here's the route for that part, sped up 180x.

(Hope this works!)



Female 1 Social Cycling Austin Ride Leader/9-Year Member 5:30 CMATx Organizer-Ride Leader/9-Year Member

Like Reply 1w





Zwinky Bell

Jason Abels yep. Honestly I thought someone else was going to lead their ride as she had posted it on her social media. But when you got to the front Raquel was leading I guess. I didn't even see the planned ride leader.

Like Reply 1w Edited





Ricardo El Rey Treviño

The rba sweep/flag person did not know what was going on. He pulled over to get to the back and looked puzzled.

Like Reply 1w



Zwinky Bell

Ricardo El Rey Treviño woah!! Your ride just got bigger.

I think it worked out fine. 75% of the people did not know what the heck was going on. Which is why when they took off from the store stop a lot of people went with them that was probably on our ride. I say we try to do it every once in a while because we still need to try to hit up campus a few more times.

Like Reply 1w Edited



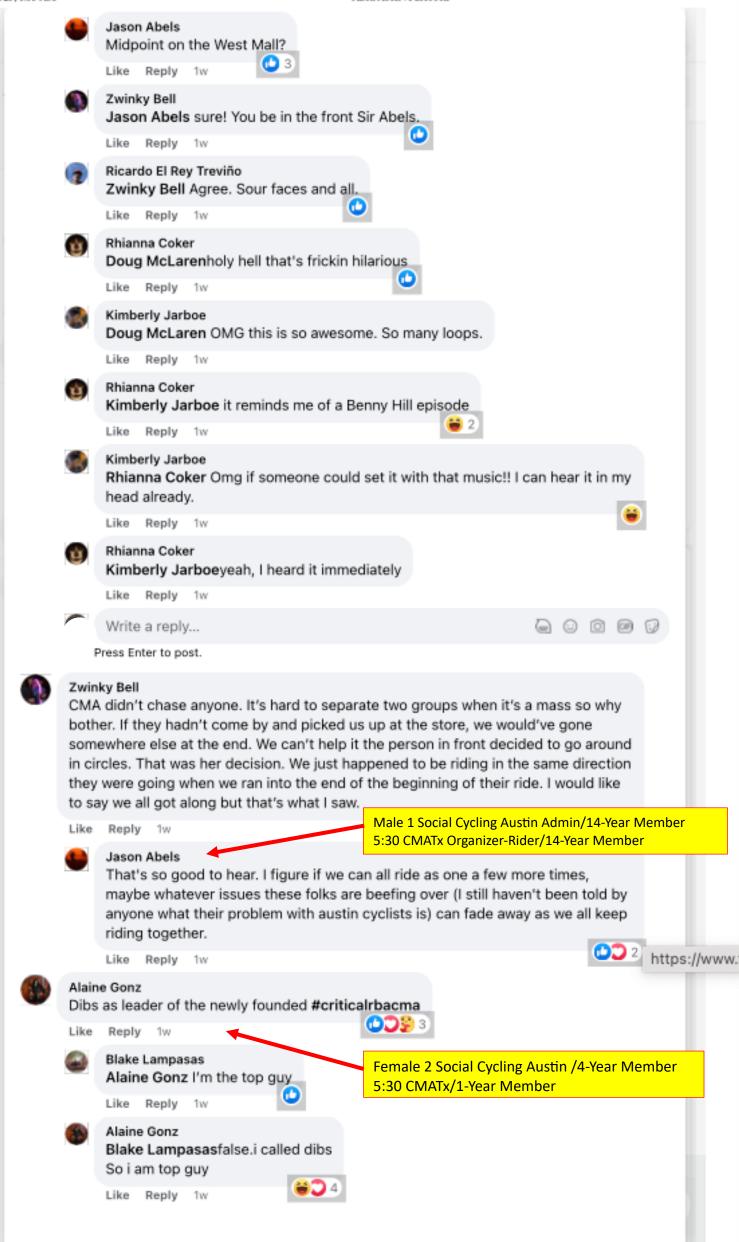


Jason Abels

Hell yeah! Take it back to its roots and bomb campus!

Like Reply 1w







Blake Lampasas

We were up front so I guess they were chasing us

Like Reply 1w





Jason Abels

The true spirit of Critical Mass: whoever's up front leads, keeping the mass together!

Like Reply 1v





Alaine Gonz



Like Reply 1w





Alaine Gonz

Blake LampasasI was up front . But way up front . That's why I'm the new leader of #criticalaustinbikeriders2023

Like Reply 1w





Zwinky Bell

Jason Abels and that exactly what I did. Just went with the flow and kept the ride big. Lol she even took us on the frontage road!! Of course we all stopped when she stopped but once the ride began again at stop signs, we kept the ride together.

Like Reply 1w Edited

Write a reply...

Press Enter to post.

Male 1 Social Cycling Austin Admin/14-Year Member 5:30 CMATx Organizer-Rider/14-Year Member



Jason Abels

Several folks have reached out privately with more information, which has been illuminating, so thank you. To that end, if anyone is still in contact with Raquel/hasn't been ostracised, please pass along word that I'd love to speak with them and understand why they seem so intent on sabotaging their own rides like this. Seems rather counterproductive, but maybe they have a good (thought still uncommunicated) reason for doing so.

Like Reply 1w

Hide 13 Replies

Male 5 Social Cycling Austin Admin-Ride Leader/14-Year Member 5:30 CMATx: Rider/10-Year Member



Ricardo El Rey Treviño

Jason Abels Seems to be anger. Those were not happy faces on the not-sodynamic-duo.

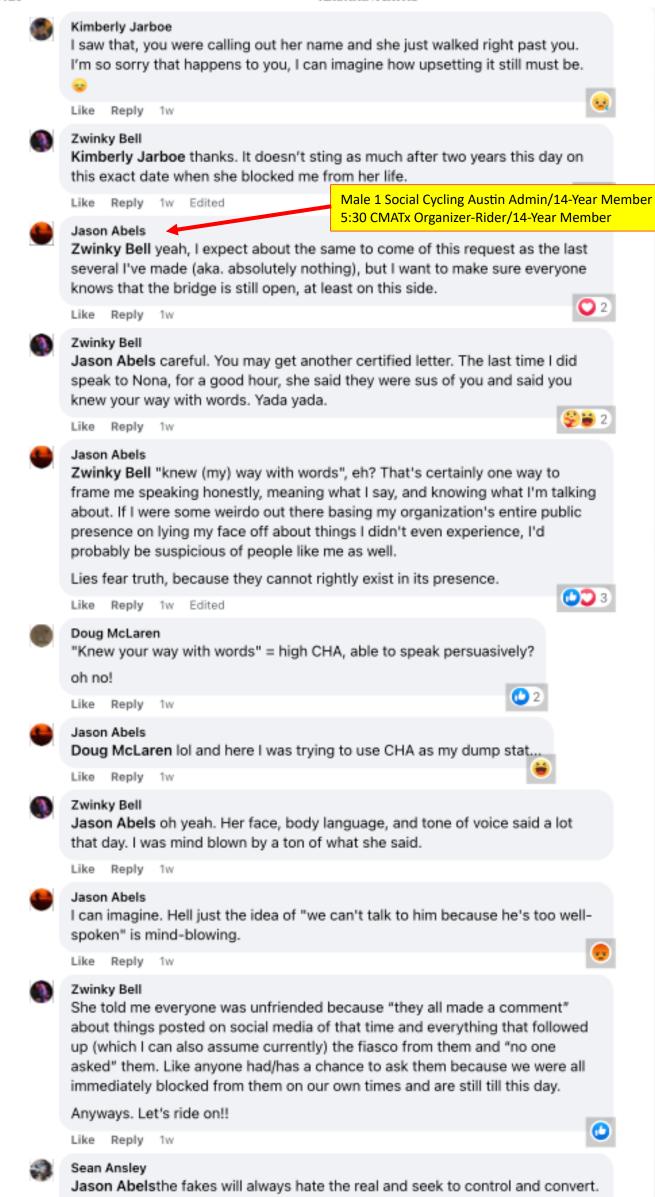
Like Reply 1w



Zwinky Bell

Jason Abels interesting. I spoke with someone on Saturday and he was super confused with their upsetting reaction. Good luck getting a chance to talk to them. I tried talking to Nona and was treated like I was a ghost.

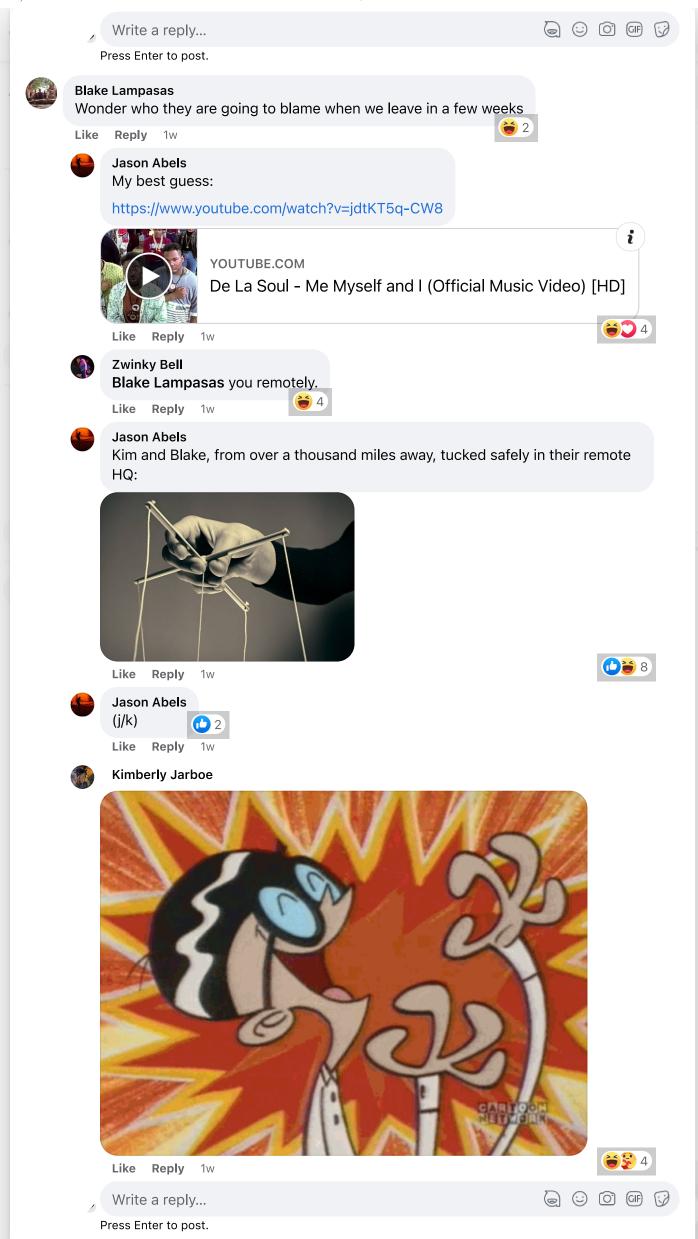
Like Reply 1w



Just my unsolicited two cents.

1w

Reply





Ricardo El Rey Treviño

It was awesome. About 200 strong. Like the old days.

rba did not want us there. We were not welcome. The faces on the leaders were faces of anger and frustration. They desperately wanted to shake us. So much anger on rba's side.

The stop at Sanchez was hilarious. Waving hands to allow us to roll by. Good times.

Reply 1w Edited Like Jason Abels



So glad to hear that everybody else on the ride kept it Texas friendly, even if RBA's leadership didn't.

Like Reply 1w





Kimberly Jarboe

Ricardo El Rey Treviño Lol is that what was happening? I couldn't really figure out why we were stopped. They pulled over and we pulled right over with them. Lol. I rolled up to the front to see what the deal was, and then I saw the leaders notice me. I'd been spotted!!

Like Reply





Zwinky Bell

Kimberly Jarboe Iol!! That's what was happening?!! I was in the school's driveway!! I wasn't going anywhere but opps. #CriticalMassAustin

Reply



Write a reply...









Press Enter to post.



Alex Cerbur

We all just wanna ride bikes

One love, man

OD 5 Like Reply 1w



Jason Abels

Damn right. C



Like Reply



Zwinky Bell

Alex Cerbur and ride bikes with a mass

Like Reply 1w





Blake Lampasas

I'm sure everyone that talked to me at the end is getting the boot this week

Reply 1w





Jason Abels

Eh, I'm hoping they got that out of their system.

Like Reply 1w



Blake Lampasas

Jason Abels I tried to tell raghell thank you for the skates but she wasn't having it

Like Reply





Blake Lampasas

I drove my truck up on grass like all of the rba people and Nona tried to tell I couldn't do it lol

Like Reply



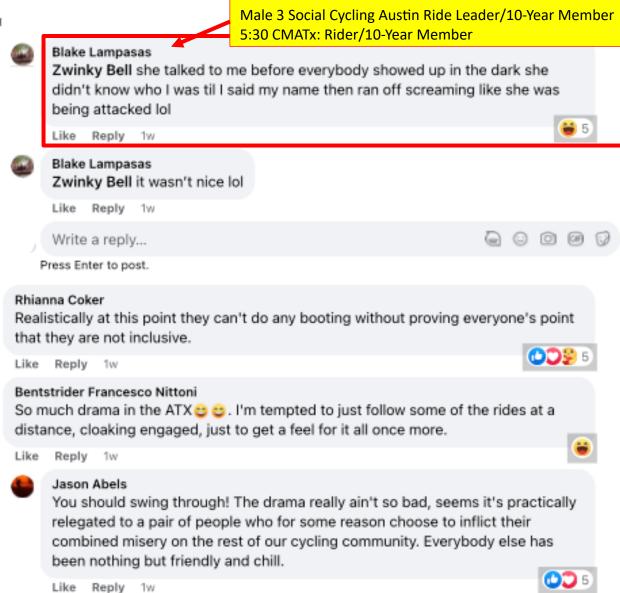


Zwinky Bell

Blake Lampasas at least she said something to you,

Like Reply





Kimberly Jarboe

Bentstrider Francesco Nittoni Yeah if you went on the TNSR again, you'd probably not really notice much difference, aside from our numbers being a little smaller post-pandemic.

Like Reply

5

Bentstrider Francesco Nittoni Kimberly Jarboe Definitely looking forward to it. Of course now I'm in the midst of my current place about to be sold and weighing a prospective Kansas or Utah/Nevada move at the moment. A further drive, but I'm willing to huff it es

Like Reply

Write a reply...

Press Enter to post.

Female 1 Social Cycling Austin Ride Leader/9-Year Member 5:30 CMATx Organizer-Ride Leader/9-Year Member

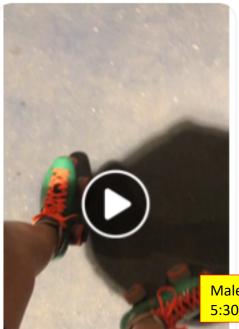
Zwinky Bell

I'll take responsibility for bringing the rides together. It was bound to happen at some time. It's a question that gets repeated each month.

The 🦋 was in front and I headed in that direction from our midstop. People had asked why we had stopped so early on our ride and wanted to get more riding in. I asked others for suggestions and no one seemed to care.

The early start CMA doesn't have a route planned so it seemed fitting to keep riding with the late start RBACMA once we merged. I feel I gave the people what they wanted. Most of the rules were followed and most of us partied, danced, and skated at the end. Some smiles were genuine, some were fake, and some smiles were upside down. Which one requires more muscles to be used?

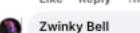
Then on Saturday a lot of us, once again, came together for the Wet Hot American Bummer Alley Cat event and it was beautiful.



Male 5 Social Cycling Austin Admin-Ride Leader/14-Year Member 5:30 CMATx: Rider/10-Year Member

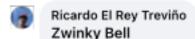
Ricardo El Rey Treviño

> Like Reply



Ricardo El Rey Treviño yeah that SpongeBob character did have a part in it.

Reply





Like Reply





Write a reply...

Press Enter to post.











Ricardo El Rey Treviño

Also. Did anyone get a certified letter yet. I haven't yet. But kind of expecting it.











Jason Abels

Ricardo El Rey Treviño ROFL!!! After the first round was officially sent, received, and got promptly laughed at (and rightly ridiculed) by everyone who came across them, I expect they realized the inefficacy of their weird, spuriously quasi-legalese threats.

If the legal masterminds in the overly-litigious employ of the New Belgium Brewing Company couldn't shift us with their ACTUAL legal threats, what chance do these two stand with fake ones.

